



End-Stage Renal Disease  
Network Program

# Treatment Modalities: Transplant and Home Best Practice Webinar

February 7, 2023



# Today's Agenda



**Meeting  
Reminders**



**Facility Report  
Cards**



**Guest  
Speaker 1**



**Home  
Interventions**



**Guest  
Speaker 2**



**Closing  
Remarks**

# Meeting Reminders

- Please mute your line when not speaking to avoid background noise
- Be present and engaged
- Participants are encouraged to utilize chat to ask questions and make comments using “to everyone”
- All meeting materials will be available via IPRO Learn

# Objectives

At the completion of this call, the attendee will be able to:

- Understand the current treatment modality report cards
- Identify at least one best practice in the area of transplant and home modality to implement at their facility
- Understand the depth of a pro-transplant culture at a facility and how it can affect success
- Understand the benefit of expanding education on early home starts in CKD and preemptive waitlist and transplant



# Facility Report Cards: A Waitlist and Transplant Best Practice

Caroline Sanner, MSN, RN-BC, CPHQ  
Quality Improvement Project Manager  
Transplant Lead

# Who Gets This Report?

- This report is sent to:

Facility Data EQRS Contact

Facility Head Nurse/Nurse Supervisor

Facility Administrator

Facility Transplant Lead

Facility Medical Director


Regional Quality Manager

Facility Home Program Manager

Facility Social Worker

- If you don't receive these, you'll need to update your facility contact information. Ensure there are no typos!
- You can also put a help desk ticket in if needed

## Transplant + Waitlisting Report



CCN#	Facility Name
123456	john.smith@none.com Social Worker

To update Facility Contacts: <https://c1abd801.caspio.com/dp/4ebb7000068d9ae2c0504631875a>

### Transplantation + Waitlisting Quality Improvement Activity

For the Increasing Transplantation and Waitlisting Quality Improvement Activity, the Network assigned a Goal for each facility based on the Baseline year's performance.

Transplant QIA Measures include the following:

- Waitlist (UNOS Data): Patients added to a transplant waitlist at one (or multiple) transplant centers in the U.S.
- Transplant (EQRS Admits into Transplant Center): Patient who receives a kidney transplant. Transplants should be documented in EQRS.

#### CMS Transplant Waitlist Goals 2021 - 2025

- Increase the number of patients that are waitlisted for transplant by 20%
- Increase the number of patients that receive a kidney transplant by 30%

CCN#	Facility Name	Baseline Pts added in 2020	(Facility Goal) May 1, 2022 - April 30, 2023	May 1, 2022 to Date	Pts Still Needed to reach Goal
		3	4	0	4 from Goal
		1	2	2	Met

UPIs of patients counted towards facility Goals are listed below/next page of this Report.

CCN	Transplant Measure	Measure Event Date	Patient UPI
CCN#	Transplant Received	mm/dd/yyyy	xxxxxxxxxx

End of Report

IPRO ESRD Network Program


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# What is in the Report?

- Explains how your facilities goals are calculated and where the data comes from
- The waitlist data is directly from UNOS and it reflects **NEW waitlisted patients** from May 1, 2022 until the month before you receive the report
- The transplant data comes from EQRS  
Admits into the Transplant Center from May 1, 2022 until the month before you receive the report.

Example: when you receive February's report, it will be May 1, 2022 until January 2023's waitlists and transplants



## Transplant + Waitlisting Report

CCN#
Facility Name

CCN#	Email Address	Personnel Role

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# Why Are These Our Goals?

- These goals are set by the Network
- These goals indicate what your facility should achieve to get based on your past performance (“baseline”)
- We keep track of what you have and how many more you’ll need to get so you don’t have to!
- Your facility success in these goals puts your Network in a very favorable position to meet the CMS ESRD annual goals for waitlist and transplant!
- The Network uses this data to find high and low performers!



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# How Should I Use This?

1. Verify your records with this report, UPIs are provided for quick reference
2. Contact your transplant center for discrepancies:
  - Ensure patients were inputted into UNOs for waitlist
  - Ensure patients were admitted into EQRS for transplant
3. Share report with the IDT during QAPI meetings to discuss your facilities progress in the CMS ESRD Goals
  - If you are not meeting your goals, it's time to do a Root Cause Analysis to identify areas you can improve upon



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# Best Practice Facility Demographics

## U.S Renal Care Orange

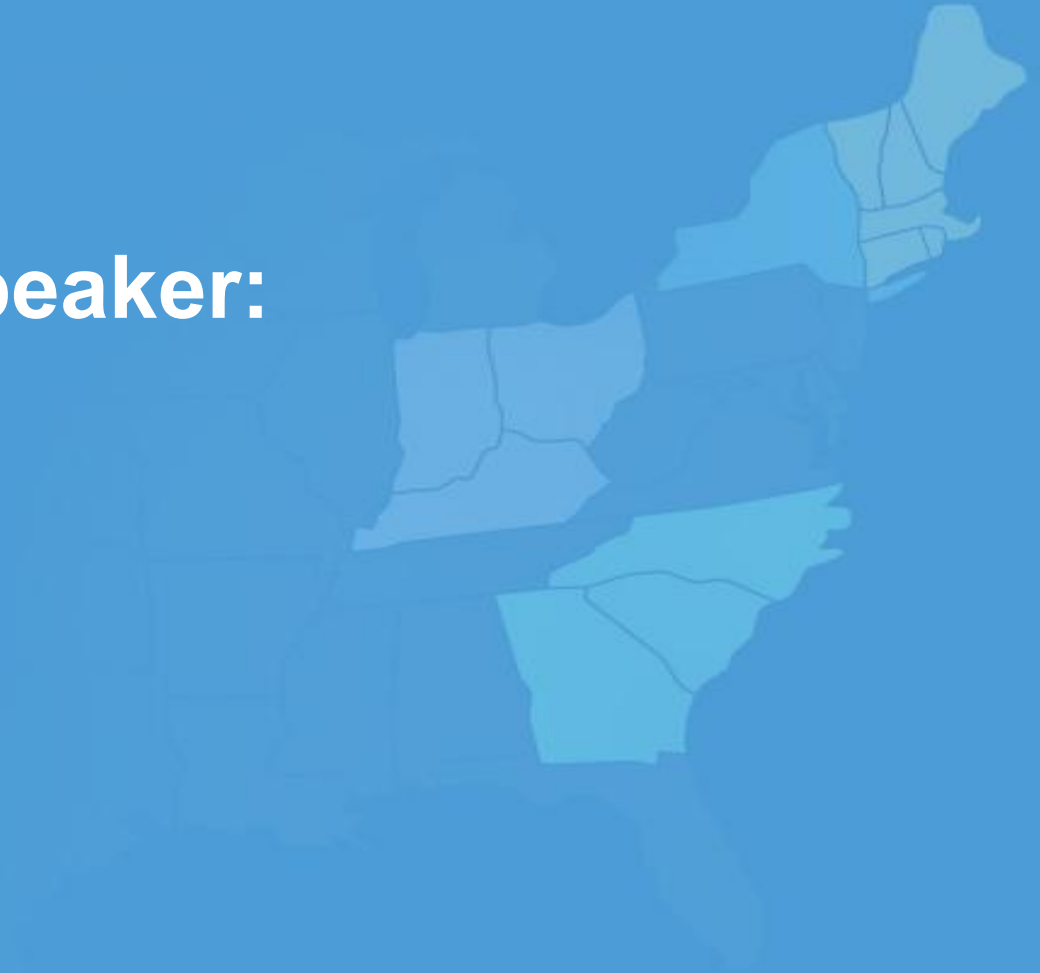
- USRC
- Orange, Connecticut
- Census: 143

May 2022- December 2022	
Wait Listed	11 patients!
Transplanted	10 patients!



# Best Practice Speaker: Transplant

Dawn Lawlor BSN, RN  
Kidney Care Options Educator  
U.S. Renal Care Orange



# Agenda

- Secrets to Success
  - Organizational Culture
  - Educational Approaches
    - Health Literacy
  - Patient-Patient Support
  - Transplant Center Communication
    - Re-Referral

# Secrets to Success

## Organizational Culture

### Kidney Care Options Educator Role

- New role at USRC, since 2020
- 20 total educators in this role, across the organization
- Patient Liaison
- Modality education for CKD Stage 4 and 5 patients
  - Encourage preemptive waitlisting and preemptive transplant

Best Practice Takeaway: A common community barrier is patients are overwhelmed when starting dialysis.

Early education in CKD is more beneficial for transplant interest and getting them to complete waitlist requirements of even get transplanted before dialysis is the best option

# Secrets to Success

## Organizational Culture

### Kidney Care Options Educator Role

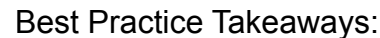
- Modality education to all new ICHD patients
- Works with home and ICHD patients at Orange to refer and support throughout transplant journey
- **Designated person to follow transplant candidates**

Best Practice Takeaway: Have a Transplant Liaison to take on this responsibility to getting the patient to and through the transplant process.

# Secrets to Success

## Organizational Culture

“We all have the same philosophy about how we want the patients to feel when coming to dialysis. A team that is working together with a real patient focus, that’s where the patients get the best care”



1. Break the ideas and discussions up into chunks
2. Talk to everyone in the simplest way possible, regardless of who the patient is or what their background is. Everyone wants and needs simplified information when it comes to their care.



# Referral to Transplant

## Best Practices

- Communication and rapport with the center is first step to successfully referring a patient to a transplant center
- Let the transplant center decide on eligibility!
  - They can look at the total picture of the patient and make decisions on how to assist patient achieve their transplant goals
  - Takes the personal nature out of it
    - “The transplant center denied them” vs. “The facility or staff member wouldn't let them” become transplanted

# Re-Referral to Transplant

## Communication

There are many reasons for a patient to stop in the referral to waitlist process, health literacy was the example discussed today

- Step 1: work with the patient to address the issues
- Step 2: Before re-referring you need to open lines of communication with your transplant center
  - Understand that EHRs and records exist. You do not want past behavior or missed appointments to affect your patients current efforts at transplant
  - Need to mend the relationship, be transparent about the events that lead up to this moment and discuss you and your patients plan to be successful this time

# Secrets to Success

## Patient to Patient Support

- Use of transplant advocates
  - Former patients who have volunteered as mentors
  - Partner up based on similarities and experiences
  - We use mostly phone call interaction but have held lobby days/ advocacy days 2x a year
    - Former transplant recipient will sit in lobby and patients can talk to them and is usually very natural

They discuss good and bad, what it's like to be on medication, real-life occurrences, and even being on dialysis post-transplant for a period of time, help answer questions like “will I really feel better afterward”

# Best Practices

## U.S Renal Care Orange

- Transplant liaisons are key!
- Success in CKD Education! – preemptive waitlist and preemptive transplant
- Identify your barriers and make it your mission to overcome them
- Communicate early and often and re-refer patients with the help of the transplant centers
- Patient to patient advocacy!

# Questions? Comments?



# Home Modality & Telemedicine Report Cards and Home Certification Letters



Michelle Prager MSW, LSW  
Quality Improvement Home Lead



# Home Report Cards

- This report is sent to:

Facility Data EQRS Contact

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Facility Administrator

Facility Transplant Lead


Facility Medical Director

Regional Quality Manager

Facility Home Program Manager

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- You can also put a help desk ticket in if needed by using the links in the report or in IPRO Learn.



## Home Modalities Report

CCN #	Facility Name	
		Facility Administrator
		Regional Quality Manager
		Facility Data EQRS Contact
		Facility Home Program Manager
		Facility Medical Director
		Facility Head Nurse/Nurse Supervisor
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Home Modality Measures are defined as:

- Transition to a Home Modality includes patients who transition from any modality to a home modality (home hemodialysis, CAPD, CCPD).
- Incident patients are those whose first dialysis treatment are a home modality. This measure is assigned to dialysis facilities that offer a home modalities program.

**CMS Home Modalities Goals 2021 - 2025**

- 60% increase in the number of new patients starting a home modality
- 30% increase in patients that transition to a home modality

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# What's in the Report?

- The goals for home including Incident and Transitions
- Goals for this year are based on performance of 2020





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# What Do I DO With This Section?



- Review your data with this section to make sure that what is in EQRS is correct
- Discuss the report card in your IDT and QAPI meetings to review progress.
- If you are not meeting your goals, complete an RCA and an action plan with areas to work on.

### Home Modalities Report

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# Certification Letters



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Philadelphia Regional Office  
801 Market Street, Suite 9400  
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3134



Northeast Survey & Enforcement Division

March 2, 2022

- Certification letter showing in-center and home stations
- Share this certification letter with the Network and keep in a binder at your facility

Administrator

Address

Sent via email: [email.com](mailto:email.com)

(Confirmation of successful transmission constitutes proof of receipt)

Re: CMS Certification Number #####

Dear :

Your request to add home hemodialysis training & support to your approval as a supplier of End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Services in the Medicare Program has been carefully reviewed along with the survey findings and recommendation of the state agency. It has been determined that your renal dialysis facility meets program requirements and is eligible for reimbursement under the Section 1881 of the Social Security Act. Therefore, the addition of home hemodialysis training & support has been approved effective February 18, 2022. Your facility is now approved for a total of twenty-one (21) stations and the services checked off below:

☒ In-center Hemodialysis (HD)

☒ In-center Peritoneal Dialysis

☐ In Center Nocturnal HD

☐ Reuse

☒ Home HD Training and Support

☒ Home PD Training and Support

☐ Home Training and Support **only** (HD & PD)

Any anticipated change in ownership, location, or services should be reported promptly to the state agency. Failure to do so may result in suspension of ESRD program payment.

# No Longer Certified for Home



- Example of a letter that is no longer providing home dialysis
- Please make sure you share this letter with the Network as it affects your goals for home modalities

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
CMS-Chicago, Survey & Operations Group  
233 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 600  
Chicago, IL 60601-5519



CMS Certification Number (CCN): #####

May 10, 2022

Current Administrator

Email:

Dear Administrator:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has approved the decrease in maintenance stations from eighteen (18) to seventeen (17) and to no longer provide home (HD) training & support, and home peritoneal dialysis (PD) training & support including CAPD/CCPD, effective April 21, 2022.

Your facility continues to be approved to provide in-center hemodialysis (HD).

Please continue to inform the Ohio Department of Health and your Medicare Administrative Contractor if you wish to relocate your facility, change the services which you are currently providing, or undergo a change in ownership.

Thank you for notifying us of the changes to your facility.

# Telemedicine Report Cards



NW 6

## Facility Telemedicine/Telehealth Report

CCN #

Facility Name

CCN # Name	Email	Facility Medical Director
CCN # Name	Email	Facility Data EQRS Contact
CCN # Name	Email	Facility Head Nurse/Nurse Supervisor
CCN # Name	Email	Facility Administrator
CCN # Name	Email	Regional Quality Manager
CCN # Name	Email	Regional Quality Manager

### This facility's Rural-Home Patient Telehealth Visit Rate for the 2022-2023 Season is

Current Telehealth Visits Count	Current Eligible Patients	Current Telehealth Rate
3	11	27.27%

Review the list of UPIs below and discuss the opportunity for them to use telemedicine to conduct 2 of the 3 monthly patient clinic visits.

If your facility has rural home patients who have had telehealth visits not listed on this Report, make sure their modality, address, and treatment setting are reported correctly in EQRS. Detailed Instructions (with screenshots) for reporting treatment settings correctly in EQRS are located here:

[KnowledgeBase: Reporting Treatment Setting in EQRS](#)

Facilities should  
strive to help  
each patient  
have a  
Telehealth Visit

Current Patient as of:	Eligible Rural Home Patient UPI	Current Telemed Patient Status (as of end of last FULL month)
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
10/10/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
11/14/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
11/25/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
9/19/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
10/10/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
11/25/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
8/11/2022	*****	Pt Had a Telemed Visit!
6/9/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
9/19/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit

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Facility Data EQRS Contact

Facility Head Nurse/Nurse Supervisor

Facility Administrator

Facility Transplant Lead

Facility Medical Director

Regional Quality Manager

Facility Home Program Manager

Facility Social Worker

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# Telehealth Visit Rate



- This section reviews current visits, current eligible patients and current telehealth rate
- Review the UPI's below to discuss opportunity for telemed visits
- Use the Knowledge Base: Reporting Treatment Setting in EQRS job aid if needed

NW 6 Facility Telemedicine/Telehealth Report

CCN # Facility Name

CCN # Name	Email	Facility Medical Director
CCN # Name	Email	Facility Data EQRS Contact
CCN # Name	Email	Facility Head Nurse/Nurse Supervisor
CCN # Name	Email	Facility Administrator
CCN # Name	Email	Regional Quality Manager
CCN # Name	Email	Regional Quality Manager



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3	11	27.27%

Review the list of UPIs below and discuss the opportunity for them to use telemedicine to conduct 2 of the 3 monthly patient clinic visits.

If your facility has rural home patients who have had telehealth visits not listed on this Report, make sure their modality, address, and treatment setting are reported correctly in EQRS. Detailed Instructions (with screenshots) for reporting treatment settings correctly in EQRS are located here:

[KnowledgeBase: Reporting Treatment Setting in EQRS](#)

Facilities should strive to help each patient have a Telehealth Visit

Current Patient as of:	Eligible Rural Home Patient UPI	Current Telemed Patient Status (as of end of last FULL month)
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
10/10/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
11/14/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
11/25/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
9/19/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
10/10/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
11/25/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
1/9/2023	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
8/11/2022	*****	Pt Had a Telemed Visit!
6/9/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit
9/19/2022	*****	Pt Eligible for Telemed Visit

# Updating Patient Treatment Setting in EQRS



Identify when and where each patient receives his/her dialysis treatment.

When did they actually start dialysis? Do they travel into the community for dialysis treatment? Do they get bedside peritoneal dialysis or "home dialysis" (frequent hemodialysis treatments)?

Follow the screenshots below to make all necessary entries in EQRS to each patient's record.

Perform this EQRS patient contact information data review each month.

- Log in to EQRS <https://eqrs.cms.gov/>
- From the Dashboard select **Patients** (top banner)
- **Search** for the patient
- Go to **Treatments**
- Click on the most current **Admit Date** for your facility
- Go to **Treatment Summary** (bottom)
- Click on the most current **Treatment Start Date**
- Click on **EDIT** or add **New Treatment** if needed
- **Do not change** historic treatment data unless it is incorrect
- Use **New Treatment** button to enter new data whenever patient changes modalities

- Verify that the **Treatment Start Date** is correct

- Verify that the **Primary Dialysis Setting** is correct

- **Home:** Patient receive hemodialysis or peritoneal (PD) treatment in their residence as defined by their permanent address.
- **Dialysis Facility/Center:** Patient travels to outpatient dialysis facility 3x per week to receive treatment.
- **SNF/Long Term Care Facility:** Patient is receiving this dialysis treatment in a Skilled Nursing Facility (short term) within a Long Term Care Facility. This may or may not be the patient's permanent address.

- Verify **Dialysis Time Period**

- **Nocturnal:** Slow, longer hemodialysis treatment that takes place at night while you sleep.
- **Daytime:** Dialysis while patient is awake.

- Verify the **Primary Type of Treatment**

- **Hemodialysis** (include Sessions Per Week and Time Per Sessions (minutes))
- **CAPD**
- **CCPD**

# Updating Patient Treatment Setting in EQRS Continued



- Verify **Attending Practitioner** information

Expected Self-care Setting

Primary Type of Treatment \*

Sessions Per Week

Time Per Session (minutes)

Attending Practitioner UPIN

Attending Practitioner NPI

Hemodialysis  
CAPD  
CCPD  
Other

- Verify **Type of Dialysis Training** information **ONLY IF patient TRAINED** for this Treatment modality
  - **Hemodialysis:** only if patient trained for home dialysis
  - **CAPD:** usually requires Training if CAPD is patient's NEW home modality
  - **CCPD:** usually requires Training if CCPD is patient's NEW home modality
- **Dialysis Training Start Date** and **Dialysis Training End Date** should be populated **IF patient TRAINED**

Type of Dialysis Training

Dialysis Training Start Date

Dialysis Training End Date

Month Day Year MM DD YYYY

Month Day Year MM DD YYYY

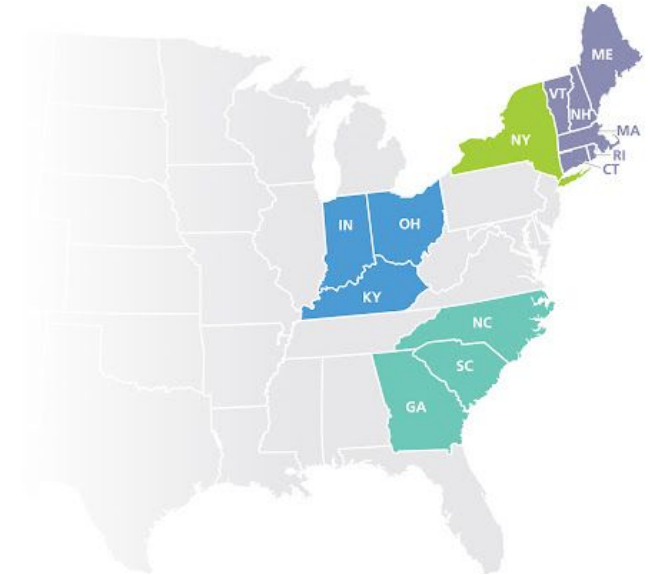


# Best Practice Facility



## FMC Dayton Regional Dialysis - North

- According to December data, **# 5** across all 4 NETWORKS IPRO covers for Incident patients
- 28 Incident patients to date (December)
- 11 transitions to date (December)



# Home Modality Best Practice Speaker

Traci Greene, RN  
Home Therapies Market Manager Greater Dayton  
Fresenius Dayton North





# Fresenius Dayton North Demographics

- In-center census: 88
- Peritoneal Dialysis: 58
- Home Hemodialysis: 29

# Home First

- CKD Education prior to starting
- Peritoneal Dialysis Urgent Start
- Home is the first modality





# Educating Patients about Home

- Physician Champions Home
- Patient advocates to talk with patients about home
- Training in-center staff to educate on home
- CM educates in-center patients
- Every treatment is modality education



# Barriers to home: Fearful



- Certifying 8 home chairs in-center for self care
- Alexa for patients to call 911 or get help in the home
- Emergency setup on file with Fire Department for access to the house

## Barriers to Home: Not Interested

- In-center is temporary
- Doing away with home visit prior to starting on home
- Don't delay home training







# Every patient gets a try

- Success story of a “non-compliant” patient



# Questions? Comments?



# Thank You!

## Please complete the post-webinar survey!



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